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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2002

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Report Highlights:

Despite a lack of new market demand, fragrant rice export prices declined only slightly due mainly to the government intervention program.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1], TH

Indicative Price (Week Ending Nov 25):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	325	320	352	323	307	305	320	322	326
WR 100 B	193	192	192	193	191	190	189	191	192
PB 5%	193	194	197	195	196	197	195	195	195
WR 5%	188	187	187	187	186	186	185	186	186
WR 10%	185	182	183	184	184	184	181	183	183
WR 15%	182	179	179	181	180	181	177	180	180
WR 25%	177	174	177	178	173	173	173	175	175
WR 35%	172	172	176	175	169	169	169	172	172
A 1 SUP	161	160	158	158	157	157	158	158	159
A 1 SPEC	158	158	157	157	156	NQ	156	157	158
Source: Average actual prices are received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grade of rices remained unchanged except for fragrant rice. Trade sources reported that foreign buyers just waited to see the production situation as the new crop came out gradually, in particular the fragrant rice production in the Northeastern region. However, export prices of fragrant rice declined only slightly despite a lack of new market demand, reflecting the psychological effects of the government intervention program which firmed prices some during the beginning of the harvest period.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
OCT 19	163,877	145,029	4,762	5,646
OCT 26	146,929	154,358	4,575	5,815
NOV 2	134,240	151,084	5,044	5,815
NOV 9	124,720	142,441	5,168	6,192
NOV 16	94,590	125,120	5,263	6,269
NOV 23	119,804	118,339	5,383	6,557

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Nov 17-23, 2002, totaled 119,804 tons, up 25,214 tons from the previous week's total and up 1,465 tons from the four week moving average of 118,339 tons.

Exports during Jan 1- Nov 24, 2002, amounted to 5,384,705 tons, compared with 6,557,481 tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2001.

Total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan - Oct 31, 2002, were 5,956,061 tons, up 0.8 percent from the corresponding period in 2001.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period Nov 4-8, Nov 11-15, and Nov 18-22, 2002 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Nov 4-8	Nov 11-15	Nov 18-22
weekly sales	114,778	92,652	97,397
4 week sum	493,056	443,991	414,903
4 week mov avg.	123,264	110,998	103,726
Total weekly sales	4,192,479	4,285,131	4,382,528